

HOUSE BILL 2055
By Windle

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 13, relative to the lawful carrying of firearms.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1350, is amended by adding the following new subsection (f):

(f)

(1) The secretary of state shall, in consultation with the commissioner of the department of correction, design and issue to each requesting correction officer who is vested and employed by the department of correction, a state identification card certifying that the officer is authorized to carry a firearm pursuant to this section.

(2) Any correction officer desiring such an identification card shall notify the secretary of state and shall provide the officer's full name and residential address. Upon receipt of such a request, the secretary of state shall notify the commissioner of correction of the request. The commissioner of correction shall verify to the secretary of state whether the requesting officer is vested and

employed by the department of correction and shall so certify in a letter to be maintained by the secretary.

(3) If the secretary of state receives certification that a requesting officer is vested and employed by the department, the secretary shall issue such officer an identification card so certifying. Such card shall be valid for as long as the officer remains vested and in the employment of the department of correction.

(4) A corrections officer issued a card pursuant to this subsection shall carry such card at all times the officer is carrying a firearm. Such card shall be sufficient proof that the corrections officer is authorized to carry a firearm pursuant to this section.

(5) If a vested corrections officer employed by the department resigns, is terminated, or is otherwise no longer employed by the department, the commissioner shall, within ten (10) days, so notify the secretary of state. Upon receiving such notice, the secretary of state shall revoke the identification card and send a letter of revocation to the corrections officer at such officer's last known address.

(6)

(A) A person who is no longer a vested corrections officer employed by the department of correction but who still has an identification card issued by the secretary of state shall have ten (10) days from receipt of the letter of revocation from the secretary of state to return such card to the secretary.

(B) It is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by fine only of \$50.00 for a person to knowingly fail to return an identification card as required by this subpart.

SECTION 2. For purposes of the secretary of state designing and creating an identification card as specified in Section 1, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall take effect on July 1, 2002, the public welfare requiring it.